

# EFFECTS OF A GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

A list of government agencies and how you might be affected during a shutdown.

## How Will a Shutdown Affect You?

If Congress is unable to reach compromise, a government shutdown for some federal agencies is set to begin on April 8 at midnight. You may wonder what this means for you - please see below for information released by specific agencies that may affect you.

Some government agencies will remain open and functional to protect life and property. This includes the Armed Forces, Border Patrol, Air Traffic Control, First Responders and federal workers who provide medical care on the job. The Postal Service and the Federal Reserve, which are both self-funded, will also continue to operate.

Regardless of what happens in Washington, I am working hard to make sure that everyone in our area gets the service they need. My Nashville and Washington DC offices will remain open to continue assisting you. If you have questions about anything not listed below, please contact my office.

## How are Government Agencies Affected During a Shutdown?

To view a link to all government agency contingency plans, [click here](#).

### IRS

- Tax forms still must be postmarked by Monday, April 18. The IRS will continue processing electronic tax returns, but paper returns will be delayed.

Social Security - Benefits for current Social Security recipients will continue going out on time. However, there may be delays for other

services such as enrolling new participants, holding hearings, or resolving problems.

Medicare - Current participants should not notice any disruption with daily health services, but new applications could be delayed.

Military - Active duty military will continue to earn pay, although they could see a delay receiving their paycheck depending on how long a shutdown lasts.

#### Veterans

- The

VA doesn't anticipate interruption to Veterans' health services including VHA hospitals and Community-Based Outpatient Clinics. Monthly benefits and compensation are distributed on the 1st of the month, and there are no delays expected unless the shutdown lasts until the 1st of next month.

#### Visas and Passports

- Prior shutdowns have kept new visa and passport applications from being processed. Embassies will remain open for services for American citizens, but will not conduct visa interviews.

Health services - In 1996 the National Institute of Health stopped taking new patients for clinical trials, the Center for Disease Control stopped disease surveillance, disease hotlines weren't answered, and cleanup work stopped at 609 toxic waste sites.

National Parks - National Park Service grounds, museums, and monuments will close.

#### Air Travel / Federal Aviation Administration

- Air travel will not be affected by the shutdown.

#### Federal Courts

- Federal courts are not affected by the shutdown.

#### Disaster Response

- Disaster Response is not affected by the shutdown.

National Weather Service - National Weather Service alerts and forecasts, as well as volcano and earthquake monitoring by other agencies, would continue.

## Additional Information and Resources

Executive Office of the  
President, Office of Management and Budget - "Planning for Agency  
Operations During a Lapse in Government Funding"

Congressional Research Service -  
"Shutdown of the Federal Government: Causes, Processes and Effects"

Sighting Plans in  
Washington, DC?

Washington Post:  
Shutdown Plan Details